

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 059602

66

ORIGIN IO-30

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 NEA-10 ISO-00 SCI-06 L-03 COME-00 EB-11

RSC-01 /073 R

DRAFTED BY IO/SCT:REALDERMAN:JK
APPROVED BY IO/CMD - MR. MCDONALD
EA/RA - MISS MCNUTT
SCI - DR. GRANGER
SAS/SCI - MR. CHAPIN
L/OES - MR. BURTON
NOAA - MR. JOHNSON
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION
IOCMD - 30 COPIES

----- 084827

R 252259Z MAR 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 059602

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: OCON, ECAFE
SUBJ: ECAFE 30TH SESSION: REPORT OF THE TYPHOON COMMITTEE
(SIXTH SESSION), ITEM 7(B)(III): US POSITION (UNEC D-129)
SD/E/CN.11/664
FOR US DEL

1. PROBLEM:
THE COMMISSION WILL CONSIDER THE REPORT OF THE SIXTH
SESSION OF THE TYPHOON COMMITTEE, DOCUMENT E/CN.11/1117.

2. U.S. POSITION:

(1) THE USDEL CAN SUPPORT THE COMMISSION NOTING WITH APPRE-
CIATION THE REPORT E/CN.11/1117 AND CAN ENDORSE THE EFFEC-
TIVE WORK OF THE TYPHOON COMMITTEE.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 059602

(2) IN THE EVENT THE SUBJECT OF THE US RESEARCH PROJECT STORMFURY ARISES, THE USDEL MAY STATE THAT PLANS ARE UNDER CONSIDERATION WITHIN THE USG TO SHIFT STORMFURY FROM THE ATLANTIC TO THE PACIFIC IN 1976 DEPENDENT ON THE US CONGRESS MAKING AVAILABLE THE NECESSARY FUNDS AND TAKING INTO ACCOUNT BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS WITH COUNTRIES AND ISLAND TERRITORIES SITUATED IN THE TYPHOON AREA.

(3) IN THE EVENT THE USDEL DOES INTERVENE AS PER THE PRECEDING PARA, AND ANOTHER DELEGATION THEN QUESTIONS ANY INCONSISTENCIES WITH THE VERSION OF THE US STATEMENT CONTAINED IN PARA 58 OF THE REPORT (E/CN.11/1117), THE USDEL MAY RESPOND THAT THE USG PROPOSES TO HOLD CONSULTATIONS WITH THE COUNTRIES AND ISLAND TERRITORIES IN THE AREA AFFECTED. WE WOULD EXPECT SUCH CONSULTATIONS TO PROVIDE A FULL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WHICH WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT BEFORE REACHING A DECISION. FYI. THE USDEL SHOULD HOWEVER AVOID USING THE PHRASE QUOTE REQUEST PRIOR CONCURRENCE UNQUOTE WHICH INACCURATELY APPEARS IN PARA 58. END FYI.

3. DISCUSSION:

(1) THE TYPHOON COMMITTEE (USUALLY REFERRED TO AS THE WMO/ECAFE TYPHOON COMMITTEE) HAS A MEMBERSHIP OF ECAFE COUNTRIES DESIRING TO PARTICIPATE IN COOPERATIVE EFFORTS TO MINIMIZE TYPHOON DAMAGE IN THE REGION. THE US HAS PLAYED AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THE COMMITTEE AS AN OBSERVER.

THE NEXT SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE IS SCHEDULED TO BE HELD IN OCTOBER 1974 AT MANILA. THE PHILIPPINES HAVE ANNOUNCED INTENTIONS TO HOST AND CONDUCT AN INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON TYPHOON MODIFICATION IN CONJUNCTION WITH THIS SESSION AND THE WMO/ECAFE PANEL ON TROPICAL CYCLONES IS ALSO EXPECTED TO MEET JUST PRIOR TO, OR AFTER, THIS SAME SESSION (SEE ITEM 6(G)(V).

(2) THE RESEARCH PROJECT STORMFURY HAS BEEN CONDUCTED OVER THE PAST YEARS IN A HIGH SEAS AREA OF THE ATLANTIC AND CARIBBEAN OCEANS BY THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA) AND THE US NAVY. HOWEVER, THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 059602

EXPERIMENT HAS BEEN CRITICALLY HAMPERED BY A SCARCITY OF HURRICANES SUITABLE FOR SEEDING UNDER STRICT USG SAFETY CRITERIA. SINCE 1971, AT SESSIONS OF BOTH THE ECAFE/WMO TYPHOON COMMITTEE AND THE ECAFE PLENARY, THE US HAS ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS ANNOUNCED IT WAS CONSIDERING A TRANSFER OF STORMFURY TO AN AREA OF THE PACIFIC OCEAN WHERE AN AVERAGE OF SIX SEEDABLE TYPHOONS USUALLY OCCUR EACH SEASON. THE TRANSFER PROPOSED FOR 1972 WAS DELAYED FOR A

VARIETY OF REASONS. THE TRANSFER PROPOSED FOR 1976 STILL DEPENDS ON CONGRESSIONAL FUNDING FOR THE PROJECT IN THAT YEAR, OUR HOLDING CONSULTATIONS WITH THE AFFECTED COUNTRIES AND ISLAND TERRITORIES AND FURTHER EXECUTIVE BRANCH REVIEW AND APPROVAL.

US EXPERIMENTS WITH TROPICAL STORMS THUS FAR INDICATE THAT SEEDING REDUCES TEMPORARILY THE MAXIMUM WINDS, BUT PROBABLY HAS NO EFFECT ON THE STORM'S DIRECTION OR DURATION. BUT A RISK REMAINS THAT A SEEDED STORM COULD CAUSE DAMAGE AND STRICT SAFETY PRECAUTIONS HAVE BEEN APPLIED IN THE

ATLANTIC EXPERIMENTAL AREA, WHERE STORMS AFFECT THE US. PRECAUTIONS AT LEAST AS STRICT WOULD BE APPLIED IN THE PACIFIC. WE ALSO RECOGNIZE THAT THE US MIGHT BE BLAMED FOR DAMAGE THAT MIGHT RESULT FROM A SEEDED STORM, EVEN THOUGH THE SEEDING MIGHT BE UNRELATED TO THE DAMAGE CAUSED.

(3) FYI. THE JAPANESE EXPRESSED SOME RESERVATIONS AND CONCERN ABOUT THE PROPOSED TRANSFER OF STORMFURY AT THE NOVEMBER MEETING. THIS CONCERN MAY HAVE LED TO AN INACCURATE SUMMARIZATION OF THE US POSITION CONTAINED IN PARA 58 OF THE REPORT. ALTHOUGH THE USDEL SAID THEN, AS

WE DO NOW, THAT THE USG INTENDS TO HOLD DIPLOMATIC CONSULTATIONS WITH THE COUNTRIES IN THE AREA AFFECTED BY TYPHOONS BEFORE THE TRANSFER OF STORMFURY, WE DID NOT SAY THE US QUOTE WOULD REQUEST (THEIR) PRIOR CONCURRENCE UNQUOTE. BECAUSE OF OUR QUOTE OBSERVER UNQUOTE STATUS AT TC VI, OUR DELEGATION WAS UNABLE TO CORRECT THE RECORD. FURTHERMORE, THE DEPT BELIEVES IT UNWISE FOR THE DELEGATION TO CORRECT PARA 58 AT THIS MEETING. WE HOPE THAT FUTURE TECHNICAL AND DIPLOMATIC CONSULTATIONS WITH COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 STATE 059602

IN THE AREA AFFECTED WILL ALLEVIATE CONCERNS THAT SOME COUNTRIES MIGHT HAVE ABOUT THE TRANSFER. BEFORE MAKING A FINAL DECISION, THE USG WOULD LIKE TO REVIEW THE POSITIONS OF ALL COUNTRIES IN THE AREA. END FYI.

(4) PARA 57 OF THE REPORT SUMMARIZES THE PHILIPPINE STATEMENT AT THE 6TH SESSION OF THE TYPHOON COMMITTEE. IT IS INACCURATE IN THE SENSE THAT IT IMPLIES THAT THE US IS CONSIDERING BILATERAL COLLABORATION WITH THE GOP IN TYPHOON MODERATION. THE US CURRENTLY HAS NO PLANS FOR BILATERAL COLLABORATION IN ANY FORM OF EXPERIMENTAL WEATHER MODIFICATION. IF THIS SUBJECT ARISES IN CORRIDOR DISCUSSIONS, MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION MAY WISH TO CLARIFY THIS POINT.

(5) IN THE EVENT STORMFURY ARISES, USDEL, DRAWING ON
PARA 3(2), SHOULD IMMEDIATELY THEREAFTER BILATERLY BRIEF
MICRONESIAN DEL. EXACT LOCATION OF PROPOSED RESEARCH AREA
IS STILL UNDER REVIEW AND THE USG WILL BE IN CLOSE TOUCH
WITH THE MICRONESIANS ON THIS.

RUSH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE059602
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: REALDERMAN:JK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740064-0622
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740317/aaaaapmt.tel
Line Count: 176
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08-Aug-2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <15-Aug-2002 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ECAFE 30TH SESSION: REPORT OF THE TYPHOON COMMITTEE (SIXTH SESSION), ITEM 7(B)(III): US POSITION (UNEC D-129)
TAGS: OCON, ECAFE
To: COLOMBO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005